Chapter. 117

The Satsuma Arc ①

The tender love story that flows like a river

3月のライオン

March comes in like a lion
Chica Umino

'3-GATSU NO LION' VOLUMES 1~11 NOW ON SALE WITH GREAT FANFARE!!

TV ANIME & LIVE ACTION MOVIE ADAPTATIONS

GREENLIT!

CHECK THE NEXT PAGE FOR NEW INFO ON THE TV ANIME☆

this year, too.

We'll all stick together

羽海野チカ

UMINO CHIKA'S OFFICIAL TWITTER: @CHICAUMINO

SHOGI CONSULTATION / SENZAKI MANABU 9-DAN
COOPERATION FROM / JAPAN SHOGI ASSOCIATION

3月のライオン

March comes in like a lion
Chica Umino

—Early morning,
5 AM
ドドド

SFX: GAH GAH GAH GAH
ガン
ガ!
ガ!
ガ!

CHEEESST
KIEEEEEH
KIEH
KYIEH
KIEEEEH
RAIDO-
OOOU!
KIEEEEEEE
SFX: KIEH KIEH GAH GANN GAH GANN KIEEE-HH HA HASHIH
PASHI PASHIH PASHIH KAN KAN KAN KAN KAN KAN KAN KAN GAH GAH GAH GAN
KIEEEH
YOU AIN'T BEATIN' ME EITH-EEEER!!
AAAH HOAH HOAA
HOAAAH AAAAAH
DON'CHA KNOW WHAT TIME IT IS?! YA WOKE THE BABY!!
WOULD YA PUT A CORK IN IT?!!
HEY, DEAR!!
IN THIS DAY 'N AGE ALL YA'LL ARE DOIN' IS SWINGIN' AROUND SHARPENED STICKS! IT AIN'T GONNA ACCOMPLISH A DARNED THING!!
How many times I gotta tell ya?!!
It's all about the warrior spirit 'a Satsuma Province!
I AIN'T SWORD-FIGHTIN?! THIS'S JIGEN-RYUU!
WHY CAN'T YA ACT YER AGE?! HOW LONG'RE YOU GONNA SWORDFIGHT LIKE THAT?!

T/N: JIGEN-RYUU (LITERALLY "REVEALED REALITY STYLE") IS A TRADITIONAL SCHOOL OF MARTIAL ARTS PRACTICED IN WHAT IS NOW KAGOSHIMA WHICH EMPHASIZES THE 'FIRST STRIKE'.

HIS WIFE RAN OUT ON 'IM, BUT DIDN' ACTUALLY DIVORCE 'IM, SO SHE'S JUST LEECHING MONEY OFF 'IM!
AND WITH HIM FRETTING OVER THAT, HE'S HAD TA DEFEND THE ONE TITLE HE'S GOT TO HIS NAME, 'KIRYUU'.
AND HIS OPPONENT'S DRIVEN HIM TA BEIN' BEHIND 0-2, SO NOW IT'S MAKE-OR-BREAK TIME FOR HIM...
棋竜
FAN AND SHOGI PIECE: KIRYUU
GRANDPA!
THE TITLE MATCH!! IT'S A LITERAL WAR FOR HIM!!
WHY ARE YOU VISITING HOME?!
We're gonna let 'im swing that with all he's got!!
HAAA...
I'M GONNA HAVE TA GO AROUND 'N APOLOGIZE TO THE NEIGHBORS...
SFX: KIIIN
THERE AIN'T NOTHIN' TA APOLOGIZE FER!
KIIEEEEE
HE'S GONNA PROBABLY GOTTA BEAT IT INTA SHAPE WITH THAT WOODEN STAKE!
WITH HIS HEART ABOUT TA EXPLODE FROM ALL THAT ANXIETY
SFX: GANN GANN
Kiii...
So damn noisyyy
CHEEESSSTTT
Dad
Mom
Grandpa
WE'VE GOTTEN TA HAVE OUR OWN DREAMS, HAVEN'T WE? IT'S ONLY RIGHT FOR US TO ENDURE THIS BIT 'A NOISE!!
HE'S CLOSE TA LOSIN' THE KIRYUU TITLE, THE CABARET CLUB GIRL, AND HIS OWN HEART. HE'S TRULY HANGIN' OFF A CLIFF!

I CAN'T GIVE IT UP...
kuh...
I CAN'T...
That's our Raidou-don all riiiight!
RAIDOU!! YOU TRULY ARE A MAN OF SATSUMA!!
HE'S GETTING SO CHARGED UP BEFORE THE TITLE MATCH HE'S ON FIRE...
RAI-DOU!!
RAIDOU.
You're pushin yerself too hard!!
RAIDOU-DON!!
MY TITLE... THAT IS MY SOUL AS A PLAYER.

I will never give it up.

Even if these arms of mine catch fire and are burned to ashes...

棋竜
KIRYUU

No!!

I cannot let that happen!!

But what happens if I lose that title?

'Fujimoto 9-dan'...

And most of all, 'Fujimoto Kiryuuu', 'Fujimoto Raidou Kiryuu',

what do you think? That beautiful shape. Has quitea ring to it, doesn't it?!!

&MIKA RAIDOU KIRYUU
Mika
Make sure you win, okay?
Otherwise Mika's gonna be mad! (ಠ_ಠ)
Huh? Whoaaaaah! Kiryuuuu? That's so cooooo!! ☆
Hey! ♡ Is it okay if I call you 'Fujimoto Kiryuu'?
I'll lose all my popularity!!

KIRYUU CHAMPIONSH
AH.
FUJIMOTO KIRYUU HAS JUST ARRIVED AT HAKUSAN INN!
FUJIMOTO KIRYUU!
RAIDOU KIRYUU!
A WORD ON HOW YOU FEEL GOING INTO THE GAME?!!
SFX: PASHA PASHA PASHA (FLASH)

SFX: PEKO (NOD) PETA PETA
NO, NO, YOU'RE NOT LATE AT ALL.
AH, I'M SORRY I'M LATE...
AH, AND MOVING ON... DOBASHI 9-DAN HAS JUST ARRIVED.
SFX: CHIRAH... DOYAA
THE FEROCITY OF A CORNERED SATSUMA HAYATO*.
THIS MAY BE MAKE-OR-BREAK FOR ME, BUT I INTEND TO SHOW THE CHALLENGER
T/N: HAYATO (LITERALLY FALCON-MEN) ARE A GROUP OF ANCIENT JAPANESE PEOPLE THAT LIVED IN THE SATSUMA REGIONS OF KYUSHU (MODERN KAGOJIMA).
TO ME, THAT'S A SIGNAL THAT SAKURA-JIMA HAS RESPONDED
LAST NIGHT
TO ME, RAIDOU, RETURNING TO MY HOME-TOWN.
THE FIRST 4,000-METER CLASS ERUPTION IN QUITE SOME TIME OCCURRED.
AH, NOW THAT I THINK OF IT, DOBASHI-KUN'S BEEN ONE OF THOSE TYPES GOING WAY BACK.
THE TYPE THAT LIKES TRAINS AND STUFF, RIGHT?
...It makes it look like I was being malicious bringing you all the way here to do something like a shogi game...
Not being able to ride planes in this day and age? Don't be a little kid...
TH... THAT'S ABOUT ENOUGH TIME TO MAKE IT ALL THE WAY TO HAWAII!
7 AND A HALF HOURS?!
HOW MANY HOURS DID THAT TAKE?!
SO I GUESS 7.5 HOURS?
AH, YES. BY SHIN-KANSEN.
UMM.. I WENT FROM TOKYO TO FUKUOKA AND TRA-NSFERRED,
SO HOW DID YOU GET HERE TODAY, IF YOU DON'T MIND ME ASKING?
DOBASHI 9-DAN, I'VE HEARD YOU'RE NOT A FAN OF TAKING AIRPLANE RIDES,
SFX: BUTSU BUTSU (MUMBLING) SOWA SOWA.. (FIDGETING)

T/N: TAMATEBAKO, LITERALLY TREASURE CHEST OR PANDORA'S BOX, IS A LIMITED EXPRESS SERVICE OF THE KYUSHU RAILWAY SERVICE THAT STARTED IN 2011. IT'S HALF BLACK AND HALF WHITE.

I WAS THINKING ABOUT MY MATCH WITH RAIDOU KIRYUU THE ENTIRE RIDE.

SO IT FELT LIKE IT WAS OVER IN NO TIME.

YES,

ALL THREE OF THE CARS HAVE A DIFFERENT INTERIOR.

AND THERE ARE THESE SIDEWAYS-FACING SEATS THAT LET YOU SEE THE OCEAN.

AND WHEN WE GOT TO THE STATION, THAT SMOKE CAME OUT... IT WAS A LOT OF FUN.

IT WAS A REALLY INCREDI-BLE TRAIN.

OH, WAS IT? THAT SOUNDS NICE.

HUH?

YOU GOT TO RIDE TAMATE-BAKO, HUH?

AND

I GOT TO RIDE *'TAMATE-BAKO*'.*

AH, YES. IT'S FINE. IT WAS MY FIRST TIME RIDING A KYUSHU SHINKANSEN.

huh...

SFX: KYUN ..

UH,

YES, YES, OKAY,

SO IT'S A REAL JOY TO PLAY WITH HIM.

THE KIRYUU'S ENDGAME TENDS TO BE REALLY FORCEFUL AND CHANGE VIOLENTLY,

9-DAN, YOU MUST BE EXHAUSTED, SO HOW ABOUT WE LEAVE THE INTERVIEW OFF THERE?

WE'LL NEED YOU TO GET SOME REST BEFORE THE NIGHT-BEFORE PARTY.

Embarrassed

SFX KAAA

LOOK HOW HAPPY IT MADE HIM.

THOUGH I'LL BET HE WISHES HE GOT MORE PRAISE.

HE'S GOT SUCH A WEAK-NESS FOR WOMEN AND TALENTED PEOPLE.

HON-ESTLY, THAT RAIDOU-SAN,

Thank you so much, Raidou Kiryuu.

Sorry.

His bags. Here, I'll carry them for you.

WHICH ROOM IS HE IN? IT'S IN THE NEW BUILD-ING, RIGHT?

Ah, yes.

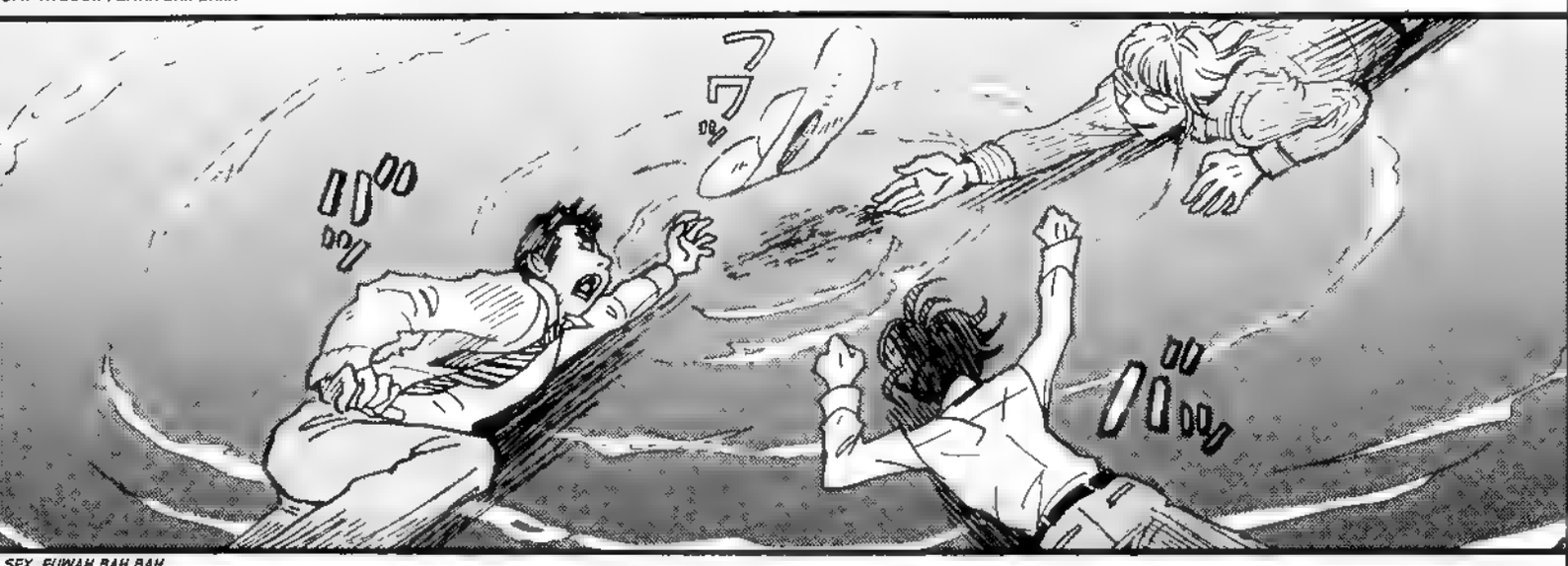
WHEW.
I HAVEN'T BEEN IN IBUSUKI IN AGES, BUT IT'S SUCH A NICE PLACE.
I USED TO COME HERE FOR VACATIONS A LOT WHEN I WAS A KID, DIDN'T I...?
HEH.
THEY'VE GOT A NEW POOL...
SFX: ZAZAAAAN
HEY, HEY! HURRY UUUP!
Wha...?
OH!!
WAIT UP!
A... god-dess?!
SFX: TOUNK

—And
she's a married woman!!
With a child!!
Dammit. Who?! Who could take such a goddess for a wife?!
(Broken hearted.)
OKAY NOW,
YOU NEEEEED TO MAKE SURE TO PUT ON SUN-SCREEN.
OKAY.
OR YOUR SKIN WILL REALLY STING LATER.
UV CUT
SFX. ZUKI!
SFX. NURI NURI. . (RUB RUB)

Could the fiancee he was talking about be...
It couldn't be... him?!
Kiri-yama?!
HUUUU-UUUH?!!
Mama-chan you want the grape flavor, right?
WAA!
I JUST
AKARI-SAAAN!
BOUGHT US SOME JUICE!
!!
白泉館

Does that mean my intuition
was right on the mark?!
BY A FAIR AMOUNT.
SO THEN SHE'S DECI-SIVELY OLDER THAN HIM.
Huu...
JEIBU
And this... woman with a smile like a holy mother. She's far beyond my expectations.
So then... that four-eyes who's in-experienced in every imaginable sense
got infatuated in an instant, so he of course decided to become 'the father of a young child' at age 19.
※雷堂イメージ
But dammit, Kiri-yama...
I'll never forgive you!!

SFX HYUOOH FUWAH BAH BAHH



SFX FUWAH BAH BAH

SFX BASHAH BASHA BASHA BASHAH BASHAH BASHA BASHAH BASHA

OH, SMITH-SAN AND MATSU-MOTO-SAN!!
HUH?!
YOU DON'T WANT IT TO GO FLYING OFF AGAIN.
DO BE CARE-FUL.
THIS WAS YOUR HAT, AKARI-SAN?
UH... HUH—?
HERE YOU ARE, MISS...
I didn't realize.
I'M AKARI. THANK YOU SO MUCH FOR INVITING US!!
NICE TO MEET YOU.
THIS IS AKARI-SAN AND HER LITTLE SISTER MOMO-CHAN.
I INVITED THESE TWO TO COME ALONG WITH ME.
SO SHE'S NOT A BEAUTY WITH AN ISSUE?!
THEN, THEY'RE SIS-TERS?!
SHE'S JUST AN OLDER SISTER THAT CARES A LOT ABOUT HER LITTLE SISTER?!
LITTLE SISTER ...?
Hi, I'm Momo!
I like pools!
UM, FUJI-MOTO RAIDOU...
I REALLY WANT TO THANK YOU FOR INVITING US.
OH SURE...
put this beautiful oushou in check?!!
—That means...
Dammit, Kiriyama. A token four-eyes kid like you...

Onei-chaaan!
I got iiit!
I got them to lend me a ring float!
Switch places with me right now!!

SFX: ZAAAAN...
WHAT A COINCI-DENCE—!
THEY'RE REGULAR CUSTOMERS OF AUNTIE MISAKI'S PLACE.
We owe a lot to you, Sis.
NICE TO MEETCHA! THE NAME'S ISSA! ☆
Ibusuki sure is nice...
Wheeew
HUH?! WHY ARE THERE PEOPLE WEARING CLOTHES IN THE POOL?!
AND... THERE'S A BUNCH OF THEM!!
AWAWA...

I've got the all-clear!! ☆
WELCOME TO KA-GOSHIMA.
IF YOU'D LIKE, FEEL FREE TO COME TO THE NIGHT-BEFORE PARTY TONIGHT.
You're welcome to come as well, miss.
Okay, roger that!!
Huh? That one?!
UHH...
I TALKED TO YOU ABOUT HER BEFORE,
— AND, UHH...
I'm Kawamoto Hinata. Thank you so much for inviting us!!
I see. So it's her, Kiriyama!!
The one that's your fiance in your head!!
Very rude...
SFX: GONYU GOHON UOH HON TSURUUUUN TSURURUUUUN (SMOOTHLY)

— Meanwhile...
I WONDER IF THERE'S A TV SHOOT OR SOME-THING?
AND THERE'S A REALLY PRETTY WOMAN...
HUH? WHY'S IT SO BUSY OUT THERE?
Dobashi 9-dan was...
TIME FOR A QUICK REST AND MORE STUDYING.
OKAY,
SFX: CHIRA... (GLANCE) SHAH...

Chapter 117 END

Senzaki Manabu's Lion Shogi Column
AN ARTICLE BY SENZAKI MANABU
1

ON PRO SHOGI PLAYERS HAVE DIFFERING ORIGINS

Shogi players are half obligated to announce where their place of origin is. In my case, this is difficult. While I was born in Aomori, I moved from place to place due to my parents' careers (Insurance salesman). We moved just after I was born so I don't think saying I'm from Aomori... rings completely true.
Okay, which places have the titles for origins of shogi players? Let's think about that first. It's easy to imagine how the vast majority are from Tokyo. Then next is Osaka. Then it continues on with Hyougo, Saitama, Kanagawa... Then the next one is probably Hokkaido.

I decided to pick up a shogi magazine to investigate. But given the natural dullness of such a thing made it an exercise in frustration to use it for any kind of research. Man, what a pain. But just when I was considering I might be the one with the problem if I'm finding this to be such a chore, I suddenly noticed my youngest daughter in front of me.

I had this high school girl investigate it for me in exchange for a part-time job fee. So I would like to point out that the below data was found from the Senzaki family's proprietary investigation.

I suppose I should say just as I expected, Tokyo was the winner with 43 pros. Osaka was 2nd with 15. That's pretty good. Even if you compare to the population, it's clear they're strong regions. I suppose the existence of the Shogi Association in Tokyo and Osaka has a big influence. And it must be hard to come from all over to make it through the Shoureikai, too.

Third place, also an expected one, was Kanagawa with 14 pros. Going down the list, there's Saitama with 11, Hyougo with 10, Chiba with 8. Course, these places are kinda close to Tokyo and Osaka. Speaking of which, if we group these places so far into East and West, then East has 76 pros and West has 25.

Okay, I suppose now I'll talk about how many players are in other regions. Let's see, a place where there's a lot... Hm, well in Hokkaidou, there are 6. By the way, I lived in Sapporo for 4 years, so I'm counted in that number.

Next there's Hiroshima and Shizuoka which have 5. I wonder if there's a local concern that their players are being send to Osaka or Tokyo.

In the Northeast, from Aomori to Fukushima, there are 6 pros. Iwate and Fukushima both have zero. When you go to these prefecutes, you get an acute sense of high expectations from the locals that 'We've got good shogi players from our prefecture'.

There are 3 in Shikoku. None in Tokushima. Kyuushuu has 9! That's surprisingly few. For some reason I get the impression that there are more of them. I guess because they have a lot of people with unique personalities, so they stand out. Perhaps the influence of the soon-to-be-established Kyushu Research Society (Something under the Shoureikai) will make it bigger.

By the way, in contrast to Fukuoka (4), Nagasaki (3), and Miyajima (2), all other prefectures have none. Not even in Okinawa.

This is all data on the current male players. If you count female pros and retired pros... then you'll probably get much of the same. Okay, my eldest daughter is taking the money she made on the research and using it to go play, so we're done here.

HI WA MATA NOBORU

THE SUN WILL RISE AGAIN

3-GATSU NO LION VOLUME 12

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